## **Abstract**

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The present invention relates to a process for preparing 2,3-cis-substituted 2-arylpropenals by condensing a 2-arylacetaldehyde I with a nonenolizable aldehyde compound II in the presence of a base, which comprises carrying out the reaction in a solvent mixture which includes at least one water-miscible solvent and water in a  $V_{\text{solvent}}$ : $V_{\text{water}}$  ratio of from 10:1 to 0.5:1.